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#8-9-00

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Pierre RIPOCHE, et al.

Attorney Docket Q58134

Appln. No.: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Filed: March 06, 2000

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: METHOD OF FABRICATING AN OPTICAL FIBER PREFORM INCLUDING
OUTSIDE DEPOSITION OF SILICA, POSSIBLY DOPED SILICA

1c542 U.S. PTO
09/519847
03/06/00

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

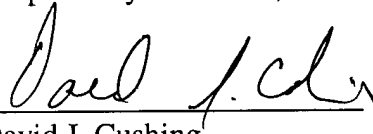
In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants enclose herewith a copy of a corresponding

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
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Communication from a Foreign Patent Office citing such documents, together with an English-language version of that portion of the Communication from a Foreign Patent Office indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. Cushing", written over a horizontal line.

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